

MACQUARIE GRAMMAR SCHOOL WINTER BLUEY NEWSLETTER

"Truth and Virtue"

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Extra-Curricular Accomplishments

One of the pillars of our school's educational experience is the rich tapestry of activities that we offer. This term, we witnessed a myriad of exciting events including educational excursions and thrilling sports competitions. These activities not only enhance our students' learning experiences but also foster teamwork, resilience and personal growth.

Celebrating Mathematical Excellence

Our Australian Mathematics Competition results are in, and I am delighted to announce that many of our students achieved notable grades, well above the competition's average. Year 8 students Tree Phan and Cheng Ying Yan (Valerie), year 9 Mike Zhang, year 10 Xiang Yin and year 11 Hanh Mai Trang Phuc received a Certificate of Credit. Special congratulations to Year 12 Jayden Tawk who received a Certificate of Distinction. Such accomplishments are a testament to our students' dedication to academic excellence and their teachers' unwavering support.

Leadership in Action

Our Year 11 students continue to impress with their leadership skills. They have eagerly applied for monitor positions to build on the initiatives of the Year 12 students who have paved the way for them. It is heartening to see our future leaders stepping up and taking responsibility within our school community.





Mr. Alexandru Acting Principal

Term in Review and Looking Ahead

Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

As we approach the end of another term, it is time to reflect on the events and achievements that have unfolded at our school over the past months. I am immensely proud of our students and staff for their dedication and hard work, and I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the highlights from this term.



Preparing for Success

For our Year 12 students, this term marked a crucial milestone on their academic journey. They undertook trial exams, serving as the final rehearsal before the HSC examinations. Their hard work, commitment and determination are truly commendable.

Maintaining High Academic Standards

The end-of-term results have shown that our high academic standards remain intact. Our students' diligence and the dedication of our teaching staff have ensured that our school continues to shine academically.

Emotional Farewell

The last day of term was a bittersweet occasion as we celebrated the graduation of our Year 12 students. It was an emotional event filled with pride, nostalgia and hope for the bright futures that await our graduates. We wish them all the best as they embark on their next chapter.

As we head into a well-deserved break, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes to each of you. May you enjoy a safe and rejuvenating holiday, spending quality time with loved ones. To our Year 12 students, I offer my sincerest encouragement as you embark on your final revision efforts before facing the HSC examinations.



I thank you for being a part of our wonderful school community and look forward to the exciting achievements and adventures that the next term will bring. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence and make our school proud.

Mr. Alexandru Acting Principal

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES AT MACQUARIE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

As we reflect on the events of Term 3, we are delighted to share the exciting experiences our school community had with students from around the world. Through various short-term programs, international students from countries such as France, Germany and China joined us enriching our school activities and leaving lasting impressions on everyone involved.

These international students seamlessly integrated with our own students, participating enthusiastically in all aspects of school life. They didn't limit themselves to their academic studies but fully embraced the vibrant atmosphere of our school community. It was heartwarming to witness the connections and friendships formed among students of different cultural backgrounds.









The joy and fulfillment expressed by both the international students and our own students were evident. Such positive interactions fostered not only a deeper understanding and appreciation of different cultures but also mutual growth and personal development. The enthusiasm displayed by our students in embracing diversity was inspiring. We are proud to share that some of these international students even extended their study period with us. This is a testament to the welcoming atmosphere and supportive educational environment that Macquarie Grammar School provides. Witnessing this extension of study periods filled us with immense pride and demonstration of the strong bond formed between these students and our school.



Moving forward, we hope the international students will consider Macquarie Grammar School for long-term study opportunities. We strive to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment that values diversity, cultural exchange and academic excellence. We encourage them to explore the possibilities of continuing their education with us where they can further thrive academically, socially and personally.



As we head into the next term with enthusiasm, let us continue to embrace international perspectives and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures within our school community. Together, we can create a truly interconnected and globally minded educational experience.



Warm regards, Mrs Sun Acting Deputy Principal

COMBATING CYBERBULLYING:

A CALL FOR AWARENESS AND ACTION

We want to create awareness about cyberbulling, the devastating impacts it causes on victims and the actions we can do to stand against it. We need to understand how detrimental cyberbullying can be. We need to take action and create a safe environment for our young people.

Cyberbullying is the act of bullying someone using electronic technology to intentionally humiliate and harass others in a threatening manner. This may include sending constant harmful messages, starting rumours and attacking online to someone known or even someone unknown to the perpetrator. Cyberbulling can be just as bad as physical or verbal bullying.

The act of cyberbullying can be extremely intimidating causing an emotional and mental distress that may have a long-lasting effect for the victim. Specifically, the victims could end up feeling a sense of loneliness, depression and anxiety where their overall wellbeing and academic performance can end up suffering causing significant emotional harm that may take years for someone to overcome.

Not only are victims affected but it could be just as harmful for those responsible for cyberbullying. There can be potential legal consequences damaging their moral character. Cyberbulling is a criminal offence in Australia where perpetrators can see jail time and face fines.

In our school community, we need to take a stance against cyberbullying. We need to create an environment that is focused on a united culture of kindness, respect and empathy for one another. By fostering this culture, it allows everyone to feel safe and valued. To address this issue effectively, we encourage parents, teachers and students to familiarise themselves with the school's policies and procedures regarding cyberbullying. If any student experiences or witnesses cyberbullying, it is crucial to report it to a trusted adult promptly. By intervening and providing support to the victims it can make a significant difference in their lives.



Prevention plays a critical role in tackling cyberbullying. Ongoing education about the impact of cyberbullying, responsible use of digital technology and the importance of positive online interactions is integrated into our curriculum. This will empower our young people to make wise choices and develop a strong moral compass, both online and offline.

Let us stand united, fostering an environment where every member of our school community feels respected, valued and protected. Through collaboration, we can create a school culture that promotes kindness, empathy and inclusivity making a significant difference in the lives of our young people.

Mrs. Sun Deputy Acting Principal

ELEVATE AND EVOLUTION WORKSHOP



During Week 8 of Term 3, year 11 students attended a mentoring workshop to learn skills in critical thinking and creative expression. Their mentors during this event were ex-Olympian and politician Nova Peris (OAM) and Australian writer Louise Wilson.









While at the event, Nova Peris (OAM) spoke to students about her experiences as an Olympian, a politician and an advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Accomplished in all aspects of her life, Nova discussed what it was like to grow up in an Aboriginal community in the Northern Territory and what it took to become an Olympic champion. Nova provided students with practical insights to empower them during a time when creating and advocating positive change can feel overwhelming.

Louise Wilson, an award-winning Australian author, spoke to students about Australia's colonial past and how relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples have been fractured for many years.

Both mentors talked candidly about the referendum for the indigenous voice to parliament and why this issue is so important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia. All students considered the referendum issue and the arguments for both sides of this issue. The mentors offered invaluable suggestions which enabled the students to participate in mock debates regarding a range of issues related to the voice referendum.

All year 11 students participated in these debates with maturity and respect, demonstrating some outstanding critical thinking skills. Positive feedback from the event organisers reflected this excellent conduct. Well done Year 11.

Mr Connal English Department

SRC

During term 3, the student representative council initiated two very important days, Jeans for Genes Day and the National Day of Action against Violence and Bullying.

Jeans for Genes Day is run every year in August and is a fundraising initiative run by the SRC. All money raised went to the <u>Children's Medical Research Institute</u>, an organisation with over 170 scientists committed to finding treatments and cures for serious conditions affecting children. During this day Macquarie Grammar School students were asked to wear their favourite pair of jeans and donate a gold coin. Members of the SRC collected students' donations, with many students choosing to donate more than a gold coin. This fundraiser was extremely successful with a total of \$214 being raised for the Children's Medical Research Institute.

The National Day of Action against Violence and Bullying was facilitated by members of the SRC, who went to the different homerooms. During this time, SRC members gave a short speech and presented a video about bullying and violence prevention in schools. This year, the SRC asked students to focus on the types of connections they make with other people, as making positive connections with people can help reduce bullying and violence. The presentations made by SRC members were well received by students and staff. Sincere thanks to the SRC members who made these homeroom presentations possible.

Mr. Jonathan Connal (SRC Coordinator)









PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES



The students at MGS have been fantastic this term and have been training, playing and studying hard. I always encourage students to strive for a balanced life; fortunately the Sport program at our school provides many opportunities for physical activity in a structured and consistent manner every week. The school also had some representative competitions this term with our MGS Netball team competing in the ISD competition and performing well. The players had some difficult games and some harsh results but they kept their heads up and continued to play with high intensity, including winning their last game. In a phenomenal effort, our school captain Frank Mirfasihi represented the school at the ISD Athletics Carnival and won both his events in shot put and discus for the 18s Boys age group. We congratulate him on this accomplishment.

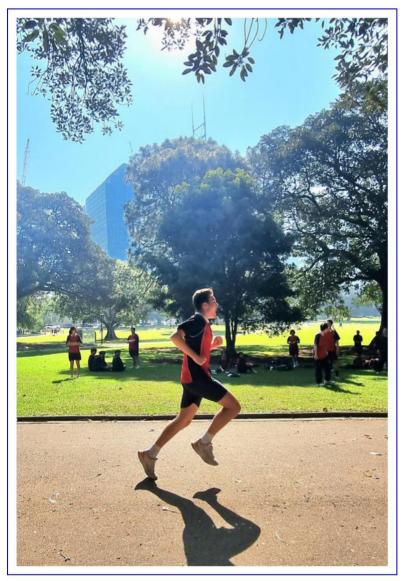
A look ahead, Term 4 has plenty of events for all students, including camp and beach day. Moreover, the school will be offering rock climbing / bouldering, volleyball, badminton and football for the weekly activities during Sport time on Thursdays. We also have representative Girls and Boys ISD Basketball competitions which our students have been training for all year. I am looking forward to seeing their hard work pay off.

Mr. Diakis Sportmaster



















MACQUARIE GRAMMAR SCHOOL





English Department

Term 3 was busy and productive term for each year group, particularly for our Year 11 students who prepared and sat the HSC Minimum Standards online Reading Test.

It is important for students to meet the HSC Minimum Standards to ensure they are prepared for their Higher School Certificate.

It was a significant milestone for all of our Year 11 students to successfully pass the Reading test, as it sets them on the right track for their HSC journey. This achievement reflects the hard work and dedication of both the students and the school's efforts in providing a quality education. Congratulations to the Year 11 students on their success in the test, and best wishes for their continued HSC academic journey!

Year 12 Fun Day

The Class of '23 thoroughly enjoyed the annual Year 12 Fun Day, this year held at Luna Park.

It was certainly time for students to take a break from the stress of upcoming exams and enjoy some leisure time together. The perfect weather for a ride on the iconic Luna Park Ferris Wheel was a terrific way to start the day.

Braving rides like the Big Dipper, Sledge Hammer, and Devil's Drop at Coney Island showed their adventurous spirit. Enjoying the rides together was a memorable experience for the students. Taking a leisurely stroll around Milson's Point, walking under the Harbour Bridge and stopping for photos was a pleasant way to soak in the breathtaking views of Sydney. It is moments like these that create lasting memories.

Ending the day with lunch at the café strip in Milsons Point was time for the students to relax, chat and spend leisure time together.

Overall, it was a most enjoyable outing and a valuable opportunity for the Year 12s to bond and make the most of their final year together before the HSC exams.

Ms. Mulleneux

FAREWELL MESSAGES TO YEAR 12 STUDENTS

As we approach the final term of the academic year, I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to our Year 12 students. Your time at Macquarie Grammar School has been nothing short of remarkable, and we are immensely proud of you.

Throughout your journey with us, you have all exemplified the virtue of humility, which is highly valued in our school community. Your modesty, respect for others and ability to acknowledge the achievements of your peers have made a lasting impression on all of us.

I want to congratulate our Year 12 students on completing their final formal Year 12 Trial exams. Your dedication, hard work and perseverance have brought you to this point, and it is a notable achievement. Please take pride in what you have accomplished as your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

As you now turn your focus towards your future in university and beyond, I wish you nothing but the best. May your studies be fulfilling, and may you find great success in your chosen field of study. Remember to build upon the foundation of humility that you have cultivated at Macquarie Grammar School, while also finding the confidence to showcase your abilities and make your unique mark on the world.

Your time at Macquarie Grammar School has prepared you well for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As you venture into your future, hold on to the valuable lessons you have learned, the friendships you have formed and the support you have received from your teachers and peers. These experiences will guide you towards a bright and prosperous future.

Additionally, I would like to extend a special message of thanks to the parents and guardians of our Year 12 students. Your unwavering support, encouragement and belief in your child's education have played a crucial role in their successes. Your commitment to their growth and well-being is deeply appreciated.

As we bid farewell to your high school years, please know that you will always have a special place in our hearts. We look forward to following your journey as you embark on this new chapter in your lives.

Once again, congratulations on your accomplishments, and may your future be filled with happiness, success and fulfillment. Farewell, dear Year 12 students.

Mrs. Sun Deputy Acting Principal



YEAR 12 VALEDICTORY



Jayden Joseph Tawk Year 12 Student













Term 3 Assembly & Year 12 Valedictory

Other Activities







Year 11 Japanese Beginners students had a Japanese Cooking Day on the 14th of September. They cooked Takoyaki (octopus ball), Onigiri (rice balls), and Inari Zushi. Students had fun cooking and all dishes were cooked so well that they could not stop eating until they became very full.







Term 3 Parent Teacher Interview







Term 3 Science Class



School Uniform

Please make sure that you are in full school uniform or sports uniform at all the time during school hours from Monday to Friday. All the items are available online (except the school shoes),

https://schoolshopnew.midford.com.au/macquariegrammar/customer/account/login

SUMMER	Girls	Boys
Academic Uniform	Blazer Vest Skirt Blouse (Long or Short sleeved) Navy Blue Socks Black Leather School Shoes (No high heels or boots) Tie School Bag	Blazer Vest Trousers Shirt (Long or Short sleeved) Navy Blue Socks Black Leather School Shoes (No high heels or boots) Tie School Bag
Sports Uniform	Navy Blue Shorts or long sports pants Polo Shirt White Socks White Sport Shoes Sport Jacket	Navy Blue Shorts or long sports pants Polo Shirt White Socks White Sport Shoes Sport Jacket

Girls	Boys
Blazer Vest or Winter Jumper Skirt Blouse (Long or Short sleeved) Black Tights Black Leather School Shoes (No high heels or boots) Tie School Bag	- Blazer - Vest or Winter Jumper - Trousers - Shirt (Long or Short sleeved) - Navy Blue Socks - Black Leather School Shoes (No high heels or boots) - Tie - School Bag
Optional - School hat or cap - School Scarf - Navy Blue Long Sports Pants - Polo Shirt - White Socks - White Sport Shoes	Optional - School hat or cap - School Scarf - Navy Blue Long Sports Pants - Polo Shirt - White Socks - White Sport Shoes - Winter Sport Jacket
	Blazer Vest or Winter Jumper Skirt Blouse (Long or Short sleeved) Black Tights Black Leather School Shoes (No high heels or boots) Tie School Bag Optional - School hat or cap - School Scarf - Navy Blue Long Sports Pants - Polo Shirt - White Socks

- The school hat or cap (will be available online soon) should be worn by students in PE outside activities. No other cap or hats are permitted.
- Some sports have a specific uniform check with your PDHPE teacher for details Proper Attire
- The Macquarie Grammar School blazer is worn with the Macquarie Grammar School shirt, the school tie and
- navy-blue school pants.
 Students should wear the tie with the MGS school shirt (long or short sleeved) with or without the vest. The
- tie is not to be worn with the polo shirt. The tie is always to be worn appropriately knotted. A non-school blazer is not permitted to be worn at school or to or from school.

Extras

Jewellery, facial and body piercings must be minimal in appearance and non-offensive. It must not pose danger to injury through sport or excursions. Make up or nail polish is not to be worn.

Clothing and jewellery are to be non-offensive, non-provocative, and non-discriminatory; no overt displays of spiritual, religious or other beliefs.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

Students out of uniform, who have the items at school, are required to change and are given detention. Students out of full uniform who do not have the items at school will be managed as follows:

Students in HSP, Years 7 to 10 will be sent home to change their clothes, following contact with their parent/caregiver. If we are unable to contact parents, the procedure as above will apply.

Students in Years 11 and 12 will be sent home to change. Enquiries should be directed to the Director of Welfare and Operations or the Director of Curriculum and Compliance.